

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Reptilia, Chelidae, *Mesoclemmys tuberculata*: geographical distribution extension

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According to Iverson (1992), *M. tuberculata* (sensu Bour and Zaher, 2000) has a geographical distribution restricted to the Rio São Francisco and its adjacent basins, probably endemic to the Caatinga biome, northeastern Brazil. On June 30 2005, we collected one individual (female; Carapace length = 224 mm; Carapace width = 174 mm; Plastron length = 213 mm; Plastron width = 132 mm) of *M. tuberculata* (Figures 1 and 2) in Luís Correia city, Piauí state (02°53'43" S; 41°37'31" W, 14 m above sea level), extending species range in approx. 200 km towards west from previous reports (e.g. Bour and Zaher, 2005; Figure 3). The individual was wandering during day light at 1500 h across coastal dunes nearby PI 315 state highway (ca. 500 m from the coastline). This is the first record of the *M. tuberculata* within Piauí's littoral zone and constitutes the northernmost record for this species. The individual is deposited in the Herpetological collection of Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, Manaus (INPA- H; 16020).



Figure 1. Head details of *Mesoclemmys tuberculata* collected in the Piauí state, northeastern Brazil.

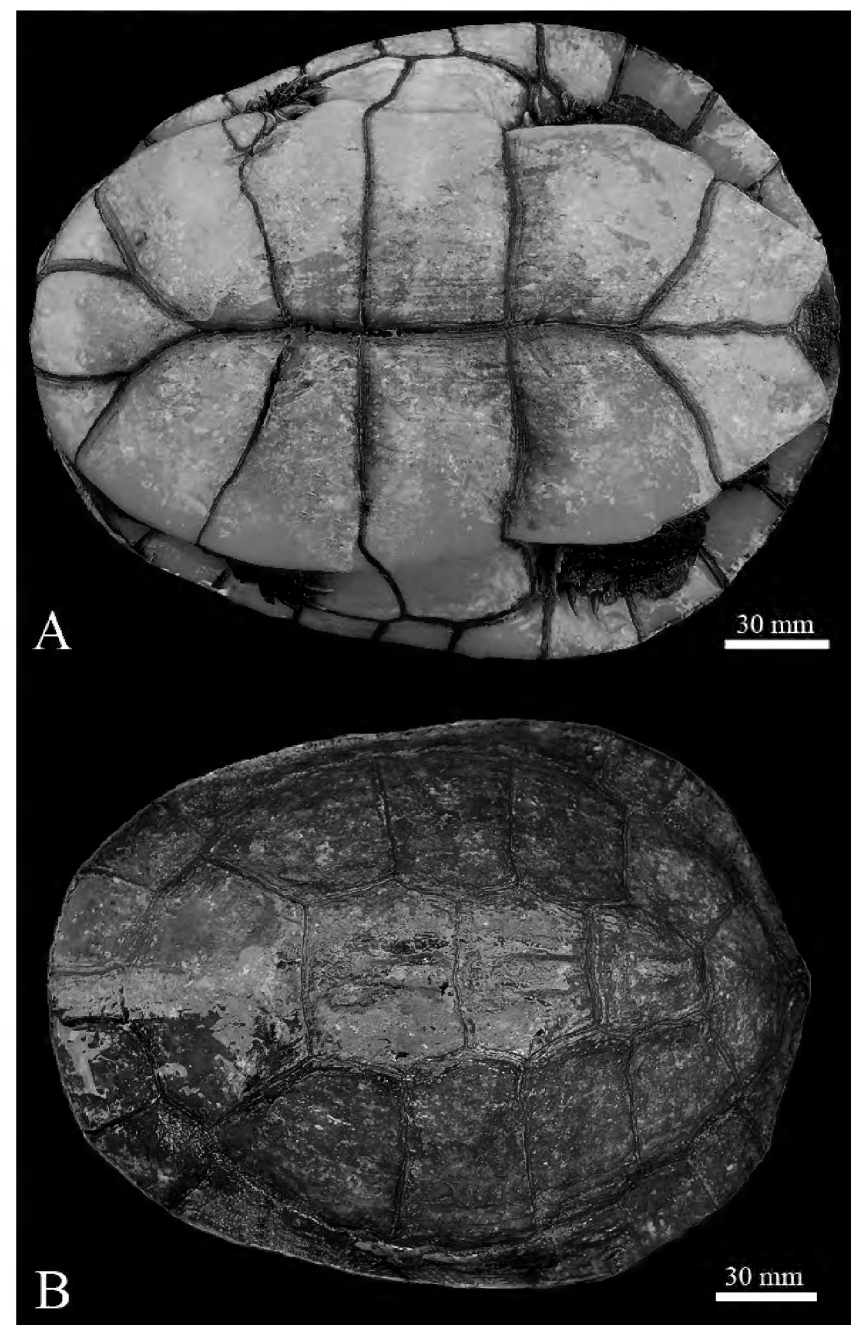


Figure 2. *Mesoclemmys tuberculata*, ventral (A) and dorsal (B) view.

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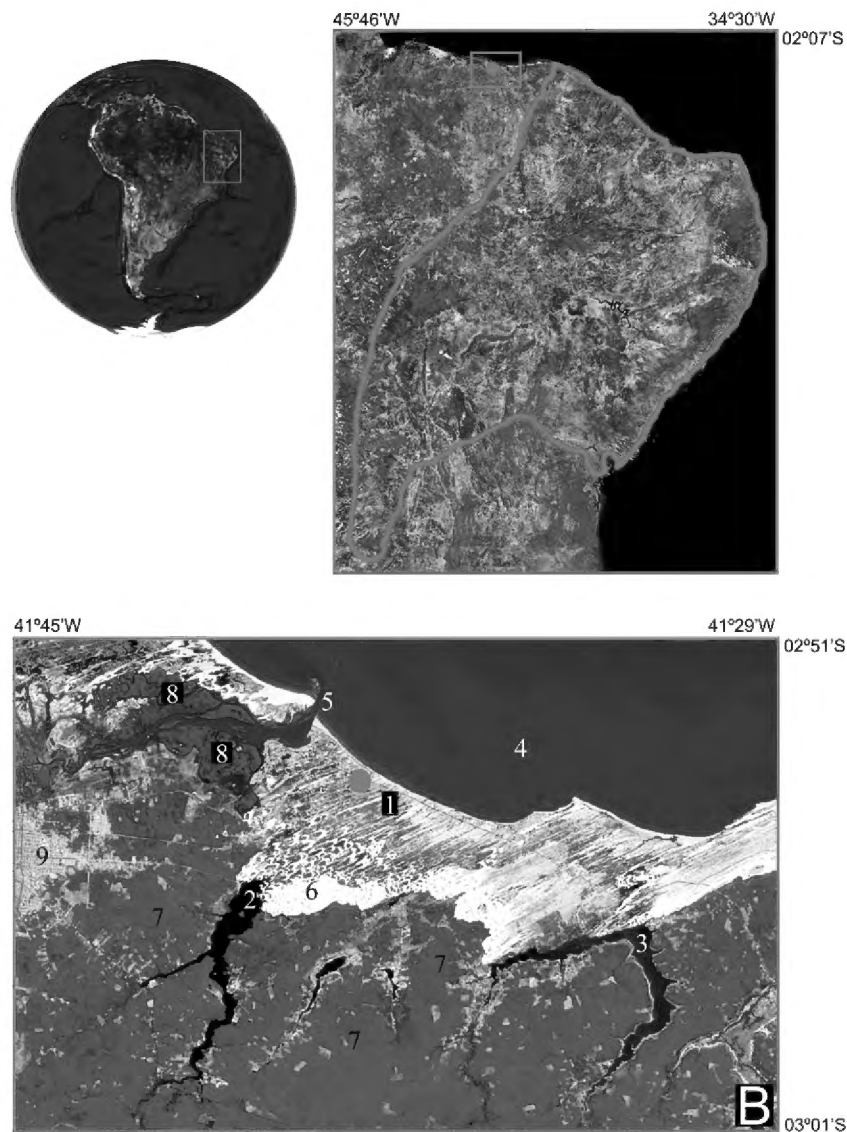


Figure 3. A) Geographic distribution of *M. tuberculata* according to Bour and Zaher, (2005) (yellow line), and the location where the specimen was collected at Piauí state (yellow dot). B) Detailed view of the area showing the most important ecosystems and landmarks: 1 = PI 315 state highway; 2 = Portinho Lagoon; 3 = Sobradinho Lagoon; 4 = Atlantic Ocean; 5 = Igarçu River outlet; 6 = Coastal dunes; 7 = Caatinga; 8 = Mangroves; and 9 = Parnaíba city. Composition of satellite images Landsat 7 obtained from NASA.

Literature cited

- Bour, R. and H. Zaher. 2005. A new species of *Mesoclemmys*, from the open formations of Northeastern Brazil (Chelonii, Chelidae). *Papéis avulsos de Zoologia* 45(24): 295-311.
- Iverson, J. B. 1992. A revised checklist with distribution maps of the turtles of the World. Indiana. Richmond, IN: Privately printed. 363 p.

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